

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7592

INFO AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 06761

DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS TO SECRETARY'S PARTY

E.O. 11652: XGDS1

TAGS: PFOR, AU, US, UK, UR, FR

SUBJECT: 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AUSTRIAN STATE TREATY

REF: STATE 56674

1. SUMMARY: SAUVAGNARGUES' SCHEDULE WILL NOW PERMIT HIM TO ATTEND AUSTRIAN CEREMONIES. BEFORE MAKING DECISION, HOWEVER, HE WOULD LIKE TO KNOW SECRETARY KISSINGER'S AND UK FOREIGN SECRETARY CALLAGHAN'S INTENTIONS. PLEASE INSTRUCT. END SUMMARY

2. PLAISANT (QUAI DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR CENTRAL EUROPE) CALLED US EARLY MARCH 17 TO INQUIRE URGENTLY ABOUT U.S. PLANS FOR ATTENDANCE AT THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AUSTRIAN STATE TREATY. HE SAID THAT SAUVAGNARGUES' SCHEDULE, WHICH HAD PREVIOUS COMMITMENT FOR MAY 15, HAS NOW BEEN UNBLOCKED BY CHANGE IN THAT COMMITMENT. CONSEQUENTLY, SAUVAGNARGUES IS NOW "MODERATELY" INCLINED TO ACCEPT INVITATION TO ATTEND ANNIVERSARY CEREMONIES BEFORE MAKING FINAL JUDGMENT, HOWEVER, SAUVAGNARGUES WANTS TO KNOW ATTITUDES OF SECRETARY KISSINGER AND FOREIGN SECRETARY CALLAGHAN CONCERNING THEIR POSSIBLE ATTENDANCE
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AT MAY 15 CEREMONIES. PLAISANT SAID THAT, AS OF NOW,

FRENCH UNDERSTAND THAT NEITHER THE SECRETARY NOR CALLAGHAN PLAN TO ATTEND CEREMONIES. PLAISANT ADDED THAT SAUVAGNARGUES WOULD NOT WISH TO BE THE ONLY ONE OF THE THREE WESTERN FOREIGN MINISTERS TO ATTEND THE AUSTRIAN CEREMONIES. THERE WAS NO INDICATION FROM PLAISANT THAT SAUVAGNARGUES WISHED TO URGE AFFIRMATIVE DECISION ON THE SECRETARY OR ON CALLAGHAN.

3. AT ABOUT THE SAME TIME, WE WERE CALLED BY RENNICK (UK EMBASSY), WHC SAID HE TOO HAD RECEIVED INQUIRY FROM PLAISANT -- COUCHED IN SIMILAR TERMS OF "CONSULTATION" RATHER THAN "INFORMATION." RENNICK SAID THAT HE HAD TAKEN STRONGLY NEGATIVE LINE WITH PLAISANT, POINTING OUT THAT CALLAGHAN COULD NOT ATTEND MAY 15 CEREMONIES BECAUSE OF COMMON MARKET REFERENDUM CAMPAIGN WHICH WOULD BE REACHING CRITICAL STAGE IN MID-MAY. RENNICK ASKED THAT WE ADOPT SAME LINE.

4. COMMENT: PLAISANT MADE QUITE CLEAR TO US THAT HIS INQUIRY WAS DESIGNED TO "CONSULT" WITH USG BEFORE SAUVAGNARGUES MADE FINAL DECISION. WE WOULD APPRECIATE GUIDANCE ON RESPONSE TO PASS TO GOF CONCERNING SECRETARY KISSINGER'S INTENTION RE ATTENDANCE AT MAY 15 CEREMONIES IN LIGHT OF ABOVE.
RUSH

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED SECRETARY'S PARTY.

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